CONTACT: Sandy Gutierrez DATE: May 23, 2008 RELEASE NO: 08-048

Media Advisory

SAPD Police Chief Takes Bold New Step in Dealing with DWI's

What: Media invitation to ride along with Chief McManus

When: Friday, May 23rd

9:00 PM

Where: SAPD

Central Substation

515 S. Frio

Today, San Antonio Police Chief William McManus will be joined by surrounding law enforcement agencies in launching a DWI no refusal campaign this Memorial Day Weekend.

If a suspect under arrest for DWI refuses to take a breath test, then a mandatory blood draw will be taken and the evidence secured and stored. This blood evidence will be part of an effort to enhance the prosecution of DWI cases.

"Alcohol-related crashes and fatalities affect our community and place everyone at risk. This is a serious and deadly issue and this effort provides us one more tool to bring offenders to justice", says Chief McManus.

This no refusal campaign is a multi-agency effort in conjunction with surrounding law enforcement agencies within Bexar County.